

(b) what steps Government propose to take in the cases of those under trial prisoners who have been released on fake release orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) and (b) The Delhi Administration have reported that no prisoner was released on forged release orders from the Tihar Jail during the past one year. However, some cases of securing release/attempting to secure release by forging bail orders had earlier come to the notice of the Government. The Delhi High Court and the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Delhi had then issued suitable instructions to the Distt. & Sessions Judge Delhi/Metropolitan Magistrates respectively with a view to preventing release of prisoners on forged orders.

Near relatives in the Personal Staff of Ministers

2154. **SHRI J. P. GOYAL:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sons, daughters and other near relatives of the members of Union Council of Ministers, who are working in the personal staff of other Ministers in the Central Government; and

(b) whether Government propose to impose restrictions in the appointment of sons, daughters and other near relatives of a Minister in the personal staff of the same Minister or other Ministers and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT

OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) and (b) Ministers have discretionary powers to appoint persons of their own choice in their personal staff, Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms is concerned only with laying down yard sticks for sanction of posts on the personal staff of Ministers and additions thereto and not with appointments to those posts, which are within the domain of the individual Ministers subject to the normal procedure laid down for such appointments, particulars of incumbents holding posts in the personal staff of Ministers are not maintained by the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms.

Regulation of Tourists in Border States

2155. **SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the entry of foreign tourists into frontier regions like Assam and North Eastern Region and the State of Jammu and Kashmir are regulated by Government;

(b) if so, what are details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Assam and Kashmir are differently treated in this respect; and

(d) whether restrictions have been imposed on the entry into Assam of all foreign tourists individuals, or groups and if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) to (d) The states of Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura are restricted areas under the Foreigners (Restricted Areas) Order, 1963. Manipur, Nagaland.